

# Oxford Democrat.

VOLUME 6.

PARIS, MAINE, TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1839.

NUMBER 24.

**OXFORD DEMOCRAT,**  
IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY  
**G. W. MILLETT.**  
TERMS—One dollar and fifty cents in advance.  
One dollar & seventy-five cents at the end of 6 months.  
Two dollars at the end of the year.  
No paper discontinued till all dues are paid, but at the option of the Publisher.  
ADVERTISEMENTS inserted on the usual terms, the proprietor not being accountable for any error in copy. Advertisements beyond the amount charged for it, on communication, and persons on business must be addressed to the publisher, Post-paid.

## TALE OF THE EARLY CHRISTIANS. FROM A LADY'S EXISTENCE OF CONFESSION.

In the reign of Marcus Anrelius Antonius, there lived in Rome a good old Senator, who had two daughters, Veronica and Berenice. They were noted, less for their beauty and gentleness than for the extraordinary resemblance they bore to each other and for their mutual affection. These girls were twins—their mother had died during their infancy, and it was found after her death, that a mother's eye only had been able to distinguish the children. Had their father, Flavius Torquatus, bestowed much of his time and attention to them, he might have acquired the same power of discrimination; but the noble patrician's hours were divided between the senate-house and the court; and when he came home at night wearied, he was well enough pleased to play with his two sweet little girls, without further troubling himself concerning them. And yet he was a kind father: he entreated his widowed sister to take up her abode with him, that she might take care of the children, he allotted for their use a magnificent suite of rooms, he purchased for them a numerous train of slaves. Veronica and Berenice had scarcely a wish ungratified.

As they increased in years, the remarkable similarity of their persons remained undiminished, but their characters became essentially different. Berenice was pensive, gentle, it might be somewhat melancholy, studious, and fond of retirement. Veronica was volatile, giddy, of quick and warm affections, yet did these points of difference not lessen their fond affection.

They had completed then sixteen years, when among the presents brought by their father on his return from a visit to the east was a young female slave of extraordinary intelligence and merit. She soon became the favorite of Berenice, and the noble young Roman would frequently retire for hours on her couch, while the slave beside her, engaged at her embroidery, would tell her tales of her own family and native land. She wept when she spoke of her peaceful home and aged parents, and Berenice felt as though she loved the girl the more for her fond regret. She asked for what cause her liberty had been forfeited, for she knew that Alce had not been born a slave; but on this point she could gain no satisfaction. Berenice would not pursue the painful subject, but her sister's curiosity was not so easily suppressed. She questioned her father, and the reply of Flavius made both his daughters start with horror.

"It was for crime," he said, "for a crime of blacker nature than you can conceive for crime that merited death: but I pitied her youth. Nay," he continued, "be not alarmed; she cannot, will not injure you: she is gentle and skillful in the healing art—for this reason I have her about you. And—you are Romans and noble, Berenice—you will not descend to undue familiarity with a slave."

Berenice remembered this injunction—she meant to obey it; but shortly after this conversation she was attacked by a painful illness and during the tedious hours of sleepless nights, she could not refrain from desiring Alce to tell her stories, and sing her songs, as she had been wont to do. Often and often, as she watched the quick, soft step of her attendant, and compared her unwearied assiduity and gentle activity with the indolence and carelessness of her other slaves, she wondered what could be the crime of which so meek and unoffending a creature had been guilty. One night she felt more than usual, and had persuaded her sister to retire for awhile, she lay perfectly still meditating on the past and on the future, that fearful future, of which she knew so little, and which she much dreaded. Alce was kneeling by her couch, and believing her mistress to be asleep, she prayed in a soft voice to the God of the Christians for her recovery. Berenice listened in still attention; she heard, to her surprise, the meditation of a being implored, of whose very existence she was ignorant. She saw Alce arise at last, with an expression of resignation and holy hope in her meekly raised eyes, which she had never witnessed in the votaries of Jove. She called the trembling girl to her side, and bade her quickly explain her sacred faith. Alce hesitated—she knew the danger she would incur for both—and some remains of the fear of man yet lingered about her heart. But she conquered the unworthy feeling, and drawing from the folds of her robe a roll of parchment, she read aloud to her attentive auditors the record of the most surprising event in the history of mankind.

Many months had passed away. One evening the sisters were together in their own apartment. Veronica stood before a mirror, her vest of satin, her flower-embroidered robe, her

zone of brilliants, told that she was preparing for a festival. At the farther end of the room Berenice was seated. She was arrayed in a plain white dress and her long hair fell unbraided, in its own luxuriance, about her throat and shoulders. With one hand she fondled a snow white dove, and ever and anon her dark hair fell over the gentle bird, and it nestled lovingly within it: the other rested on a parchment which appeared to engross the maiden's deepest attention.

"Come, now, Berenice," said her sister, playfully fixing the wreath of roses, prepared for herself, on her sister's brow, "lay aside for once your melancholy book, and send your dove to its rest, and come down with me to the banquet." Berenice looked up and answered gently,

"Not so, Veronica—not to-night. It is the anniversary of poor Alce's death: and did she not die for love of me, watching and waiting when all others slept? Her image has been with me through the day; I cannot join the banquet with my heart full of sad memories. Leave me sister," and Berenice took off and returned the wreath.

"Yet listen—one word more. Thou knowest who will be there this evening. My father will frown, and Lucius Emilius will sigh when I go alone. Lucius departs to-morrow for the battle; and shall he go without one benison from his affianced?"

"No," replied her sister, speaking low, and faltering; "you, Veronica, will tell him that I wait to see him here before his departure."

"Berenice! my sister, bethink you of your father: remember his patrician prejudices. Surely this stay—"

"Go, dear sister," answered Berenice, mildly, yet firmly: "for the love that you bear me, do me this errand. I would not any other eye should mark the weakness I fear to betray in parting with one whom my father has commanded me to love. Tell my father I am unwell—and it is true my head and heart ache—go, dearest. And Veronica, unconvinced, yet persuaded by the tears of her sister, which in truth were flowing fast, left her alone.

Berenice resumed her reading, but not for many minutes: she arose and shut the volume, saying, "Not thus, not thus, with divided attention, and with wandering thought, may I presume to read this holy record." She placed it within a small golden casket, locked it carefully, and then walked forth into a balcony, on which the windows of the apartment opened.

The moon had just risen, and shed soft light on the magnificent building of the eternal city; the cool, thin air swept over the brow of the maiden, and calmed her agitated thoughts: she had a bitter trial before her, for she was about to inflict a deep wound on the heart of one whom she loved with all the innocent fervor of a girl's first affection, and she trembled, as she pictured to herself his surprise and sorrow. Then Berenice looked up at the quiet of the evening sky, and thought of the time when earth's interests would be over for her; and could she thus look, and thus think, and still hesitate? Ah! no! When she heard the step of Lucius drawing nigh, she plucked a single flower from a creeping plant, that overshadowed the balcony, and keeping it in her hand as a token to recall her better resolutions, she advanced to meet him.

"It was not for this I sent for you hither," she said in reply to his passionate expression of regret and love: "you are a Roman soldier, Lucius, and I know it was neither your destiny, nor your wish to be over at a lady's side. Believe me, I have learned to look on this parting as on a thing inevitable;" but ever as she spoke her voice faltered.

Lucius leaned forward to console her, to whisper of re-union: "Your father has promised, dearest," he said, "that this campaign once over, the Marcomanni once defeated, I shall be rewarded, at my return, with the hand of my Berenice."

"It may be so," she answered sadly, "if you still wish it."

"If I still wish it! Berenice of what are you dreaming?"

"I am not dreaming, Lucius Emilius; I am speaking the words of sober reality. You think of me, as of the beloved daughter of Flavius Torquatus—the co-heiress of his wealth and honors, of one whose hand will confer distinction. If, on your return from Germany, you should find me despoiled of all these advantages, an alien from my father's house, it may be from his heart, scorned and forgotten by my friends despised by mankind."

"You would still," replied Lucius, "be to me the same Berenice, whom in her hour of prosperity I had vowed to love and cherish. But what can be the meaning of your terrible words? Why do you torture yourself and me by such utterly vain imaginings?"

Berenice withdrew from the encircling arm that supported her; she leant against the slight column of the verandah; her voice was softer than the softest whisper, yet every word fell with terrible clearness on the ear of her lover—"Lucius Emilius I am a Christian!"

Lucius went forth that night from the chamber of his betrothed an altered man—for the chill of disappointment had fallen on his proudest and fondest hopes. He had tried all his persuasive powers to induce the girl to forsake

her new opinions—he had tried in vain: so now, no longer opposed her sharing my early death, he sought remained for him to do, but to fulfil the engagements in which his honor was concerned, and then to return—to love her still—and to protect her, if necessary, with his life. He bore with him two precious gifts, to console him in absence, as far as any thing could console him—the golden casket and the carrier dove.

Berenice was again alone—not, as heretofore in the solitude of her own luxurious apartment—not surrounded as she was wont to be, with her books, and music, and flowers; she was alone in the solitude of a gloomy prison chamber. A small aperture near the ceiling, guarded by iron bars, admitted just light enough to show the dismal emptiness of the place—no tapestried hangings to hide the cold, damp walls, no warm carpets to cover the stone floor. It contained only a low couch, and on that the maiden was seated, sometimes raising her clasped hands in the deep earnestness of prayer, sometimes covering her red and swollen eyes, to hide, it might be from herself, the tears she could not restrain. Presently a low knock was heard at the door, and her father entered. Berenice shuddered, and said, "Not this—oh, let me be spared this worst grief! Yet, no—the sacrifice must be complete; give me only strength to bear it!" Then she advanced, and led Flavius Torquatus to her couch, and meekly kneeling before him, prayed him yet once more to lay his hand upon her, and to bless her.

The old man answered, "It is not for this I come, unhappy girl. I come to tell you that all my entreaties have been in vain: the orders of the emperor must not be disobeyed, and his orders were, that all of your infatuated sect should be exterminated. Were Marcus here the tears and prayers of his old faithful servant might avail; but he is beyond the Danube. To-morrow, a general execution! Oh, Berenice! my child, my child! must I live to see your blood flow forth by the hand of the common executioner?"

"I came not, as yesterday," he continued, after a long pause, "with tears and entreaties to remove you. Yesterday, I knelt to implore you to save your father's heart from breaking—and in vain!—To-day, I come with harsher purpose. You asked me but now to take you in my arms and bless you, as I did when you were a child. Berenice, if you do not abandon your infatuation, if you persist in bringing eternal dishonor on your line—Berenice, listen!—may the curse of your father—"

The girl pressed his arm heavily—she tried to speak, but her parted lips were white as marble, and refused to utter a sound.

The old man looked on her, and the curse on his lips was stayed. He looked on her, and kissed her ere he went, for he had tenderly loved her mother.

"My sister," she faintly murmured, as he moved away; but Flavius answered, "You will never see her again: you would infect her with your superstition. I cannot be left childless in my old age." And the old man went, and as the last sound of his departing step died away, Berenice thought her worst trial over, and she withdrew her thoughts from the world, and sought to prepare her soul for death.

Late in the following day the people of Rome assembled in the amphitheatre, to witness the martyrdom of the Christians. Horrible deaths they died. Some were torn to pieces by wild beasts; others were burned at a slow fire; some were crucified, and they accounted such death an unmerited honor. Berenice was reserved for the last, and because she was of Roman and patrician blood, she was to suffer the milder punishment of decollation. The sign was given and when it was proclaimed by the herald that the Christian maiden was coming forth, there was a deep silence among that vast multitude, that even the advancing steps of the girl and her conductors were heard. But what was the surprise of all present, when they beheld, not one, but two young maidens, both dressed alike in white raiment, both coming forth with the same quiet step and placid demeanor; and one it might be the most tranquil, advanced a step towards the sent where he who governed the city, during the absence of Marcus Antonius, set, and thus addressed him:

"It is I, most noble prefect, who am Berenice the Christian. This girl, my sister, for love of me, would fain take my name and punishment on herself; but credit her not—it is I who am the condemned."

Then arose a touching dispute between the sisters—sisterly love lending one the eloquence which the other derived from truth. Many of their friends, even of their relatives, in the amphitheatre, were called on to come down and decide between them: but some spoke for each one. Veronica, in her agonizing fears, had lost the light and joyous expression of her countenance; and Berenice's meek and holy hopes had chased the deep melancholy from her face and mien.

One or two brutal voices arose and said, "They both call themselves Christians—let them both die the death!" but one of the maidens answered, "Think not, most noble prefect, if you thus decree, that you will be guiltless of my sister's blood. She is not a Christian at heart—would to God she were! then would I found,

no longer oppose her sharing my early death, Veronica, acknowledge the truth and let me suffer alone." But Veronica, if she it was persisted in her first declaration, and none could tell how this dispute would terminate, when a new incident attracted the attention of the multitude, and silenced every doubt.

A speck was seen in the air—it came lower and nearer. It was a milk-white dove. The bird fluttered round one, then drew near the other; no caressing hand was held out to receive him, but his instinct was not to be deceived; he settled on the shoulder of her who had answered the harsh voice from the crowd, and sought to nestle as he was wont in her long hair. Many were present who knew the pet belonged to Berenice, so the people were satisfied with his decision, and the weeping Veronica, still protesting against her own identity, was torn from the arms of her sister. Then the prefect who had been much moved at this singular scene, turned to Berenice, as she stood alone in the arena, and said, "It is not yet too late young maiden, to preserve thy life. Have pity on thy youth and loveliness, and on the grey hairs of thy aged father. What harm is it to swear by the fortune of Cæsar, and to sacrifice and be safe?" But she answered more firmly than ever, "I am a Christian, and I cannot sacrifice to your false gods. You condemn me to death, but I fear not to die in defence of the truth!" She advanced, unbitten, to the block, and knelt by it: yet ere she joined her hands in prayer, she bent once more fondly over her little messenger bird, as if to bid farewell to the last object that told of earthly ties. There was a small scroll of parchment under its wing: Berenice felt it, and thinking it might perhaps tell the only tidings she cared now to hear, she rose again, and holding it forth, she prayed permission to read it. The prefect did not refuse, and Berenice reads first in silence, and then, aloud, "The Emperor Marcus is dead, and Commodus is already proclaimed Cæsar." Aloud shout rent the air. It was well known that Commodus, in his heart, favored the despised sect, and in spite of his prejudices, the beauty and heroism of Berenice had moved the hearts of her countrymen in her favor. A general outcry for her release was heard, but this the prefect dared not grant. Berenice was remanded to prison until the pleasure of Commodus should be known respecting Christians. It was not very long ere, wearied with the hardships of the camp, he returned to his capital, and his first order was that all Christians should be released, and restored to their privileges as Roman citizens. In his train came the young Lucius: he had found leisure, amid all the excitement of glory, and the hardships of his campaign to study the precious gift of his betrothed—at first for love of her, and afterwards from a wish to know the truth.

So when their nuptials, delayed awhile by the death of Flavius Torquatus, were at last solemnized, Berenice had the deep happiness of knowing that the husband of her choice shared the sure faith and pure hope of her own spirit. They remained not long in Rome the follies and cruelties of Commodus rendered it distasteful to them; and although Lucius stood high in his favor, as he was very capricious, they knew not how long it might remain in their own power to depart or to abide in safety. They therefore bade adieu, without a sigh, to the pomp and luxuries of the capital, and embarked for a little island in the northwest of Europe without the range of civilization, where they knew they should enjoy safety and freedom.

Berenice was perfectly happy: she gave not one regret to the magnificence she abandoned, for Lucius was with her; and as she stepped into the boat, a trembling caressing girl clung to her, and a soft voice whispered in her ear, "My sister! whither thou goest I will go: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God."

**FRANCE AND MEXICO.**—The accounts from Vera Cruz are contradictory. The N. O. Courier of the 6th has the following:—

"By the arrival of the schrs. Corn and Eliza, the former from Matamoros, and the latter from St. Juan de Ulloa, we have received the following verbal intelligence from the passengers on board:—

"The Cora left Matamoros on the 8th December. At that time every thing was perfectly quiet but the citizens dreaded an attack from the federalists, who were within three miles of the city of Matamoros, in number 500.

"From Vera Cruz we learn that Santa Anna was stationed within three miles of the city, and had 10,000 men under his command. He had issued a proclamation to the effect that he would support the government at all hazards, and put down the French.

"The mails were stopped, and no communication with the towns in rebellion."

**Well to live.**—A fellow was arrested in New York the other day for seizing a pair of boots a man in the street held in his hand, and saying, "he'd be— if he would n't have 'em, any how." He was taken to the watch house and searched, and in his hat about two pounds of beef steak, in his breast a decanter full of brandy, and in the pocket of his coat two mackerel, were found.

## Discovery of Mummies at Durango, Mexico.

A million of mummies, it is stated, has lately been discovered in the environs of Durango, in Mexico. They are in a sitting posture, but have the same wrappings, bands and ornaments of the Egyptian. Among them was found a pignard of flint, with a sculptured handle, chaplets, necklaces, &c. of alternately colored beads, fragments of bones polished like ivory, fine worked elastic tissues, [probably our modern India Rubber cloth,] mockasins worked like those of our Indians today, bones of vipers, &c. It remains to continue these interesting researches, and America will become another Egypt to antiquarians, and her ruins will go back to the oldest periods of the world, showing doubtless that the ancestors of the Montezumas lived on the Nile, and that their luxurious civilization was broken up and overpowered by the hardy hordes of Asiatic Tartars, who came down from Bluring Straits, and the Rocky Mountains. The scenes of Attila and Alaric in Rome and Greece, where rehearsed at an early day on the shores of California and the plains of Mexico. It is unknown of the mummies above mentioned what kind of embalmment was used, or whether it was nutritious decompositions in the caves where they were found. A fact of importance is stated, that the shells of the necklace are of a marine shell found at Zacatecas, on the Pacific, where the Columbus of their forefathers probably, therefor landed from the Malay, Hindostan, or Chinese coast, or from their islands in the Indian Ocean. [N. Y. Star.

## A RIVER ON FIRE.

It can no longer be doubted that the Alabamians are waking up, as it will appear by the following article, that they have succeeded in setting their principal river on fire:

### The Tombigby River on Fire.

While Mr. J. M. Cooper was prosecuting the removal of McGrew's Shoals, after boring to the depth of 375 feet his augur suddenly dropped and entirely disappeared. In the space of some several moments a deep hollow sound was heard, resembling the rumbling noise of distant thunder from the chasin below, and at the same instant gushed forth from the shaft thus made, a clear, transparent, oleaginous substance of liquid, which boils up very similar to the effervescence of a boiling pot; and which owing to the sluggishness of the current, has gradually diffused itself over the whole surface of the river. A quantity has been collected, and upon application of fire, it is found to burn equal to the purest sperm oil.

To gratify curiosity and make further tests, fire was applied to the oil on the water, and the whole surface of the river is now burning, emitting a flame of most beautiful appearance, about six inches high, and has already extended about half way down to the Fort Stoddard the reflection of which upon the horizon in the night, presents a most sublime spectacle, far surpassing in grandeur and beauty of appearance the aurora borealis. [Mobile Journal.

**A Mathematician.** A boy about fifteen years old once said to me, with an important air, "I went through Daholl' Arithmetic three time last winter, sir; and I can do any sum in the hardest cyphering book you can bring."

I did not dispute him, nor doubt but what he could mechanically obtain the answer of almost any sum found in a book, under a rule. But I thought he had, like many others, made figures without thinking, and I asked him the following question:

"What will twenty pounds of beef come to at twelve cents per pound, providing the beef is two thirds fat?" He hesitated a while and then said: "If you'll tell me what the fat comes to, I'll do the sum."

I laughed heartily, for I could not restrain myself. He soon said to me with considerable spirit, "If you tell me the rule it comes under, I will tell you what it comes to." I still said nothing, for his ludicrous embarrassment prevented my speaking at the instant, when he said: "It's an unfair sum—I never saw such a sum in the book in my life."

He considered me an impudent school master, and I put him down as a fair specimen of most of the children taught in our common schools. They make no application of their lessons to the practical business of life. They do not think. They are not taught that thinking has any thing to do in obtaining an education. This unfortunate lad had never brought the business of the world on to the slate, or into the school room. No: that two thirds fat he could not understand—he could not put the fat under any rule—he had never seen a sum that had any fat in it before. Satirical hints on the People's Education.

"Why mother, almost every word in John's letter is spelt wrong; you would not have me marry such a man surely?"

"La, Sal, I spose that's the way to spell in the town where he lives; they have different fashions to us in everything."

**The home of our youth.**—The heart thence hardened, turned fondly, with the affection of a child to its mother, to the green spot of earth whereon in youth we gambolled."



# Legislature of Maine.

## IN SENATE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 19, 1839.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

On motion of Mr. Comstock, Ordered, That the Secretary of State be requested to procure the printing of the Treaty of Aug. 17, 1820, between the State of Maine and Penobscot tribe of Indians, and annex the same to the Resolves of 1839.

On motion of Mr. Holden, Ordered That a message be sent to the Governor and Council informing that body that the Treasurer elect is ready to take the oaths of office.

The President laid before the Senate the Report of the Warden of the State Prison, and on motion of Mr. Holden, it was laid on the table and five hundred copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature.

A message was received from the Governor, by the Secretary of State transmitting the Report of the Inspectors of State Prison, laid on the table by motion of Mr. Gross, and 500 copies ordered to be printed.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23.

Mr. Dumont called up the Bill to incorporate the Maine Steam Navigation Company. The question was on adopting the amendments of the House. Mr. Dumont moved to non-concur; but before the question was taken, the subject was laid on the table, at the reception of a message from the House transmitting a confidential message from the Governor, together with the confidential proceedings of the House thereon.

On motion of Mr. Boutelle, Ordered, That whenever a confidential communication from the Governor is to be acted on, all persons except Senators, Secretary and Messenger, be requested to leave the Chamber, and the Secretary administer the oath to the Messenger and that the proceedings of the Senate be kept secret, till the injunction of secrecy is removed.

On motion of the same gentleman, the Senate then went into secret session, and the doors were closed to the spectators and the reporters excluded.

The doors having been opened, the Senate again proceeded to the consideration of the Bill to incorporate the Maine Steam Navigation Company. The question being on concurring in the adoption of the amendments of the House, a discussion took place, in which Messrs Barker, Humphreys, Dumont and Perkins participated; after which the motion to non-concur in the adoption of the first amendment, viz: to strike out that clause which exempts shares from a greater assessment than \$25, was taken, and the motion to non-concur prevailed. The question was then on the second amendment. After some further remarks from Messrs Smart, Williams, Littlefield, Emery and Perkins against the motion to non-concur, and Mr. Dumont and Boutelle in favor, Mr. Perkins offered an amendment to the amendment, which, on motion of Mr. Boutelle, was together with the Bill, laid on the table.

THURSDAY, JAN. 24.

Papers from the House disposed of in concurrence.

The Bill to incorporate the Maine Steam Navigation Company, was called up. The question being on the motion of Mr. Dumont to non-concur the House in the adoption of the 2d amendment, which makes stockholders' private property holden for their corporate debts. Mr. Perkins moved that the subject be laid on the table for the present. The order which was introduced the other day, touching the same principle embraced in the amendment, had not been fully considered and determined upon by the Committee to which it was directed; but when it was, he hoped to be able to have something of general application to corporations, which would preclude the necessity of adopting the amendment under consideration. He hoped the Senate would consent to let the Bill lay upon the table till that time. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to without a division.

The Senate went into Secret Session for a short time.

The doors having been opened—a Message was received from the Governor transmitting the Report of the Commissioners of the State Prison &c; which was referred to the Committee on the State Prison.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SATURDAY, JAN. 19, 1839.

On motion of Mr. Marden of Palermo.

Ordered, That the Committee on the State Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting by law the sale of said lands to any but actual settlers, and so g. adjusting the price of said lands as to give the greatest encouragement to this enterprising portion of the yeomanry of our State.

On motion of Mr. Daggett of Chandlerville, Ordered, That the Committee on Agriculture be requested to inquire into the expediency of so amending the law granting money to Agricultural Societies, to be used as premiums—that such premiums shall not be confined to the members of such Societies, but be extended to all persons (within the limits of such Society) who shall produce the best specimens.

Mr. Paine of Sanford, called up the Bill to incorporate the Maine Steam Navigation Company, (laid on the table a few days since); and the question was on adopting the amendments offered by Mr. Ide of Frankfort, viz:—1st, to strike out that clause which exempts shares from assessments beyond the amount of \$25 a share—2d, Adding the following section:—"That the individual rights and credits of the Stock-

holders shall be liable for the debts of the Corporation in the same manner as for their individual debts."

Mr. Ide said he was in favor of placing all future Companies incorporated by the Legislature, under such liabilities as should secure to their creditors the just payment of their debts. There was no sound reason why Corporations, when they contracted debts, should be excused from liquidating them to the utmost farthing, any more than individuals should be excused. He was opposed to Corporations possessing greater immunities and exemptions than individuals. The gentleman from Gardiner had said when the bill was up before, that this company intended to do business on capital and not on credit—and there could possibly be no necessity for these amendments. If they did not intend to use credit, what objection could be urged to their adoption. There were corporations which did business on credit; and beyond the amount of their capital stock, and the effect was, those who labored for them were obliged to take 60 per cent. of their debts—and glad to come off so. They could not compel them by law to pay; for the private property of the Corporators was exempt from attachment; and they were not liable beyond the amount of their capital invested. There was also much complaint in his quarter, that it was almost impossible to collect taxes of these Companies—they would contrive some mode to evade them—go to one person and he would send you to a third, and so on. And if assessed higher than they thought they ought to be—they would declare they would have new assessors—and would use all their corporate influence on those who labored for them, to effect their political designs. And to test the sense of the House on this subject, he moved the yeas and nays on the first amendment and they were ordered.

Mr. Sheldon of Gardiner said the remarks of the gentleman from Frankfort had no applicability to this Corporation; however true they might be, as to Corporations of a different character. Large Manufacturing Corporations, employing a great number of workmen, had an opportunity, and doubtless often did, commit the practices he had mentioned. This Company simply proposed to run a Steamboat from the Kennebec to Boston; and intended to do no other business. It was impossible that it should get into debt. Were the amendments adopted the tendency of them would be to prevent men of small means taking stock—and place the whole in the hands of over-grown capitalists. So far from Corporations, under our present laws, enjoying exclusive privileges—privileges greater than private citizens enjoyed—the reverse of this was true. All the corporate property was holden for the debts of the corporation, and private property of the corporators to the amount of their respective shares. It was an object to encourage corporations, which were created for the undertaking of hazardous enterprises, for the development of the resources of the State; in which no individual would ever engage unless he could be protected, in a measure, from the ruinous liability attending a complete failure of the project. And if Maine ever wished that her vast resources should be brought into active and profitable use, it must grant incorporation to companies of this character. It had been the policy of the State in times past, in order to introduce foreign capital into Maine, to exempt property in Manufacturing Corporations, owned by persons out of the State, from taxation. This was wisdom in a State like ours, having an abundance of resources and a deficiency of capital. But adopt these amendments and no foreign capitalist would hazard his property in an investment in any corporate enterprise in Maine.

Mr. Levensaler of Thomaston said that the gentleman from Gardiner appeared to be afraid that Corporations would not be formed if they were held liable to the payment of their debts in the event of a losing game—and foreign capital would thereby fail to be embarked in the development of the resources of our State. Then it seemed that these public spirited corporations, would not undertake the noble enterprise of "developing the resources" of our State unless they could be guaranteed against loss, by an act of the Legislature! Protect private associations against the payment of their debts; and you will not fail to have enterprises set on foot, as insects you could well desire. Protect the private individual from all liabilities to his creditors in case he became involved in his business, and you will experience no want in cotton schemes of speculation &c. And who would not undertake them? Who would not engage in hazardous projects, if they could be guaranteed against all loss? But the gentleman's apprehensions of a scarcity of these kind of corporations, were altogether unfounded. Under the law of 1836, ten millions of capital stock had been granted to corporations of this character, and thousands more were prayed for—and what progress had they made in "developing the resources of the State?" Instead of developing the resources of the State, they had impoverished, cheated and beggared its citizens—they had crushed individual enterprise and corrupted all healthy business. He was not afraid, that there would be any deficiency of the companies to be lamented, were their liabilities ten times as great as they now were. Mr. Carey of Houlton cared not whether the amendments were or were not adopted. He was opposed to it, and should go, in toto, against granting another act of incorporation of this character. Our State had already been cursed with a superabundance of them. He was in favor of repealing every one now in existence. What necessity was there for an act of incorporation of the kind prayed for? Could not a Steamboat be run from Kennebec to Bos-

ton unless the proprietors were incorporated? Or was it the object, by obtaining the privileges which such an act gave to them, to destroy all competition on the line. And having accomplished that object then to raise the fare to what price they pleased, to the travelling public. In his section of the State, men associated together under acts of incorporation, entered into the arena of the common occupations of life, and monopolized the business of individuals. Even in house-building they had engaged. In 1836, it was difficult for a farmer to obtain help in carrying on his farm, because he could afford to pay laborers but \$1.00—when corporations offered \$1.50. But laborers, after working for them a year or two, were turned home unpaid, to travel labor at any price, of those they had refused to work for at \$1.00. Thousands of laborers in our State had been cheated by corporations in the Eastern section of the State, out of a whole year's wages—and it was impossible for them to ever obtain a cent of it. He was for the repeal of all corporations. He was for having individual enterprise compete with individual enterprise—he was for having every citizen stand on a common footing—no granting special privileges to none. He desired to see an end put to this haunting the Legislative halls to obtain privileges not enjoyed by the common mass—an end to this logrolling among members to procure corporate monopolies for themselves and friends. If the people of Kennebec wanted to run a steamboat, he had no objection to their doing it; but if nothing could be done without an act of incorporation, he thought they had better give up the enterprise. He should, after the amendments were disposed of, move the indefinite postponement of the Bill.

Mr. Allen of Alfred, made a few remarks in relation to the effect of the amendment, if adopted.

Mr. Shelton said it seemed the gentleman from Houlton was opposed to all corporations. He was aware there were some gentlemen so situated as to render an opposition of this kind peculiarly advantageous to them. Perhaps it might be for the interest of a person located near the line to go against every thing which tended to develop the resources of the State, and to call into circulation the capital of men of small means. In his horror of corporations, he seemed to think that the Company was got up with the design to destroy competition. No person living on the river entertained such a notion, and the gentleman must have drawn largely on his imagination to have conjured up the idea. It was unnecessary for him to say more in reply to the gentleman from Houlton, for he always paid particular heed to the axiom, that "a short horse is soon curried." Mr. S. made some further remarks in reply to Mr. Levensaler. He said the gentleman from Thomaston could see nothing but private aggrandizement and an attempt to cheat the people, on the part of those who asked to be incorporated by this Bill. He was acquainted with the corporators—and more virtuous, liberal, honest, respectable and high-minded men, were not to be found in the community—men who, of all others, would scorn to defraud any creditor of his honest due—they would pay every farthing out of their own private pockets before they would do a thing of that kind.

Mr. Whidden made some remarks in support of the amendment.

Mr. Carey said, as the gentleman from Gardiner had alluded to him, he would say one word in reply. He did not, nor never had held a single share in any corporation in his life—and that was sufficient evidence that he was not rich. He had no property but what he got by his hard labor. As the gentleman from Gardiner had concluded to act upon the axiom that "a short horse is soon curried," he himself might show his wisdom by adopting a still greater brevity in following out the principle, that it is labor spent in vain to try to improve the appearance of a pack by the use of the curry-comb; and he would therefore leave the gentleman from Gardiner. He must say, once for all, that he was opposed to granting any more corporations—they sucked the life blood out of the community—destroyed the regular pursuit of honest industry—destroyed all competition in labor—crushed individual enterprise—corrupted our legislators—engendered wild speculation—induced immorality and vice—and brought ruin, bankruptcy and poverty upon the country. A great cause of the panic in 1836, was, in his opinion, imputable to speculations engendered by the great number of corporations which were about that time created. They got up a mania that abstracted labor from the regular pursuit of profitable business to engage in the construction of rail-roads, canals, bridges, and every other enterprise which the cupidity of corporators prompted them to undertake. But between 1836 and the present time, the energies of the country being exhausted, very little had been heard of corporations—no application had been made for new ones. Now the country had measurably recovered, and a healthy action being assumed—these corporations were again asked for, to commence anew the work of depletion, and again to prey upon honest industry. He hoped, from the bottom of his heart that no more corporations would be granted; and that the community would be protected in their business from depredations of this character.

Mr. Levensaler said, the gentleman from Gardiner was not entitled to the credit of much consistency, however great was the ingenuity he had exhibited. In one breath he had told the House that the Company did not intend to make use of credit—and in the next, he declared that the stock would not be taken up, if the clause exempting them from a full liability of their debts was stricken out. The gentle-

man had also said that he had great feeling on this subject—and that feeling was not of a private, but of a public nature. No one would ever have suspected this of the gentleman from Gardiner, if he had not told us so. He further adds, that the corporators were the most virtuous, liberal, honest, respectable and high-minded men to be found in the community; and they would scorn to defraud a creditor out of a cent of his dues. He did not know about that—for he was not acquainted with any of the corporators, except the gentleman from Gardiner; and the fact of his name being found in the Bill, furnished some light as to the character of the scheme. Any one acquainted with the gentleman from Gardiner, would be at a loss to determine whether it was got up for public or private good. He did not, however, think it becoming in gentlemen to arrogate to themselves all the "virtue," as well as all the "talents and decency." It was an old saying, and had not lost its force to this day, that "actions speak louder than words."

Mr. Appleton of Portland, moved a reconsideration of the vote whereby the yeas and nays were ordered on the first amendment. Disagreed to, yeas 38, nays 37—one fifth having the right to demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were taken on adopting the first amendment, which were as follows:—Yeas 74, nays 43.

The yeas and nays having been ordered, the question was on adopting the second amendment.

Mr. Appleton of Portland, said if the amendment under consideration was adopted, and it should become the settled policy of the State to adhere to this system of discouraging the formation of companies of the character of the present one, to say the least of it, instead of tending to advance the interests of the State as should be the object of all measures adopted here, it would have the effect of a retrograde movement. He therefore hoped it would not prevail.

Mr. Wyman of Skowhegan, said the gentleman from Gardiner (Mr. Sheldon) had favored the members of this House with a very long and lucid exposition of the beauties of the "Credit system," for which the gentleman had laid us under peculiar obligations. The question before the House, however, was not, he apprehended, upon the merits or demerits of that system, but simply whether the rights and interests of the many should by our acts, be rendered entirely subservient to the interests of the few; or, other words, whether corporations should, to a certain extent, be exempted from the payment of their debts. If he rightly understood the provision of the Bill under consideration, it contemplated the granting of the exemption alluded to; and it was from this consideration that he should give to the amendment offered by the gentleman from Frankfort, (Mr. Ide,) his cordial support. By adopting the amendment, we should perform an act of justice to the public, but not of justice to the corporations; by refusing to do so, we should grant to them an exclusive privilege—a privilege denied to individuals—no other, Sir, than the privilege of contracting liabilities to any extent, and of being exempted from the discharge of those liabilities beyond a definite amount. In fact, it would be holding out an inducement for fraud and villainy—for the corporations to adopt this very course. And here permit him to observe that he would not be understood as reflecting in the slightest degree upon the integrity of any gentleman named in this Bill, for he had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with several of them, and of knowing that they are high minded, honorable, and above suspicion. His objections were in opposition to the principle—not to the men.

The gentleman from Gardiner had told us that the adoption of the amendment would endanger the rights of the stockholders. If by "rights" the gentleman meant the privilege which he had alluded to—and he believed that he meant more—he could assure him that it would afford him the greatest satisfaction to record his vote in favor of "endangering" such "rights." But, said the gentleman, "creditors may pounce upon individual stockholders and ruin them." In answer to this objection, he wished to ask that gentleman with what propriety the stockholders could require the public to run a risk which they themselves were unwilling to do. If they could not trust their brother corporations—if they dared not incur the risk of loss or mismanagement,—could, or should the public?

The gentleman had further told the House that there was a strong opposition to the association of individuals for the prosecution of business. For one, he could say, that he was not opposed to such associations. On the contrary, he disagreed with his friend from Houlton (Mr. Carey) on this point. He was in favor of granting as many associations of this nature as should be asked; but he would give them no exclusive privileges. He would insert in each act of incorporation a provision similar to the one under consideration, or enact a general law to that effect. He would reduce them to mere partnerships—and, in time, he would extract the poisonous fangs of the "little monsters," and let them run.

The yeas and nays were then taken on the second amendment and carried, as follows:—Yeas 77, nays 41.

So the two amendments offered by Mr. Ide were incorporated into the Bill.

Mr. Carey of Houlton, then moved the indefinite postponement of the Bill.

Mr. DANE of Kennebec, called the yeas and nays, and they were ordered; and the motion to indefinitely postpone was taken, and negatived as follows:—Yeas 33, nays 84.

The question then returned on passing the

Bill to be engrossed, which was put and carried without a division. So the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended. Adj.

MONDAY, JAN. 21.

On motion of Mr. Paine of Sanford, Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of enacting penal laws against any public officer or agent of this State, or any of their clerks, agents or servants, entrusted with the receipt and disbursement of any of the public moneys, securities or personal property of this State, who shall embezzle, misapply or misuse any of such moneys, securities, or personal property.

TUESDAY, JAN. 22.

Papers from the Senate disposed of in concurrence.

On motion of Mr. Cole of Paris.

Ordered, That the delegation from Oxford County, with such as the Senate may join, be a Committee to inquire into the expediency of repealing an act entitled "an additional act, to establish a Court of Common Pleas, approved March 7, 1837."

On motion of Mr. Baker of Steuben.

Ordered, That the Judiciary Committee be requested to inquire into the expediency of so altering the law that a citizen of a foreign State shall not be permitted to bring an action for debt against a citizen in this State, in any other than the County in which the defendant resides.

Petition presented and referred—of Levi Stowell, Register of Probate, Oxford County, for increase of compensation.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 23.

The Secretary of State laid on the table a Confidential Message from the Governor;—whereupon, on motion of Mr. Cole of Paris, the Galleries were cleared, the spectators on the floor of the Hall were requested to withdraw, the doors closed, and the House went into secret session upon the subject.

And when the doors were reopened, the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, JAN. 25.

Leave to withdraw—on petition of L. Stowell, Register of Probate, Oxford County, for increase of compensation.

## Congressional Proceedings.

IN THE HOUSE—Monday, Jan. 21.

As soon as the Journal had been read, Mr. Haynes adverted to the fact that the President's annual Message had not yet been disposed of. But a few weeks remained of the session, and he thought some immediate action should be had thereon. He therefore moved that the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole, for the purpose of reforming the various subjects contained therein, to appropriate committees.

Objection being made, Mr. Haynes moved a suspension of the rules, to enable the motion to be received.

On the motion to suspend, Mr. Cobb demanded the yeas and nays, which being ordered, were yeas 84, nays 74, not two thirds. So the rules were not suspended.

Petitions and memorials then being called from the several States and Territories,

Numerous petitions were presented from the States of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, asking the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and for the repeal of the resolution of the 12th of December. They were severally laid on the table under the standing rule of the House.

Mr. Adams said he had before him a great number of memorials relating to slavery, but before he presented them, he would ask leave to make a statement in the House for the purpose of correcting a misapprehension, and of showing his true position with reference to the important subject of the abolition of slavery. One great reason for his asking leave was, the fact of his having, within the last fortnight, numerous interviews with the South, threatening him with murder and assassination, in case he persisted in his present course.

Objections being made, Mr. Grevill moved a suspension of the rules on which motion the yeas and nays being demanded, were yeas 84, nays 75, not two thirds. So the rules were suspended.

Mr. Adams then adverted to the character of the letters he had referred to. He said that while some of them contained direct threats of assassination, others were couched in friendly language, begging him for God's sake to desist from his course, or he would be assuredly be murdered. Some of them went so far as to challenge him to fight a duel on the subject. One in particular, named the rifle as a weapon, and assigned time and place, giving him the only alternative of being murdered in the street. He wished it understood, however, that in noticing them, he had no view of asking the action of the action of the House upon them, as a question of privilege. Mr. A. went on to say that from the time the first petition had been presented in the House for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia he had never voted in favor of the object. And if that question were to be decided this day, he would not vote for it, as in his opinion it was not expedient. He would not say that his opinion might not be changed after a full and fair discussion of the subject, but his present opinion was decidedly adverse to such a proposition. He said he had read with much care the arguments adduced in favor of the abolition of slavery in the District, but they had failed to convince him of the propriety of it. It was evident, however, that he had been misunderstood on the subject in the South, and hence the origin of the letters he had received. He could not believe that there was cause for serious apprehension, however, as it was much easier to talk about murdering a man,



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Mr. A. then alluded to the number of petitions  
he was constantly receiving, accompanied with  
pressing letters desiring him to do justice to them.  
Under such circumstances, he said he felt it his  
duty to present them singly and individually to  
the House, as he thought the petitioners had a  
right to have their petitions considered in a res-  
pectable manner. He made that explanation in  
order that the House might know the nature  
and circumstances under which he acted, and  
with a view of removing the odium which had  
been cast upon him.

He then adverted to the resolutions offered  
by him on a former day, relative to the conduct  
of Mr. Stevenson, our Minister to England, and  
maintained that in so doing, he had been actuated  
by no personal feeling, but because he con-  
sidered it the duty of the House to take the  
matter under consideration. Mr. A. concluded  
by showing that even among the abolitionists of  
the North, he was not considered an advocate  
to the full extent of the principles, but that the  
petitions were entrusted to him on the ground  
of his uncompromising adherence to the right  
of petition, which right he would, at all risks,  
over maintain.

#### OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, JANUARY 23, 1839.

Our readers will see by reference to the proceedings  
of the Legislature, that the House of Representatives  
has by a decisive vote, settled a principle of great im-  
portance, viz--that in private corporations, the prop-  
erty of stockholders shall be held to the whole amount  
of the corporation debts. This is right. We know of  
no good reason why corporations should not be held to  
pay their debts as well as individuals, unless  
it be because they are soulless, and therefore, not ac-  
countable. If individuals by an act of incorporation  
can thereby command more capital and do a greater busi-  
ness than they can individually, it is a sufficiently  
great privilege, without their being exempted from li-  
abilities honestly incurred, and from which individuals  
are not exempted.

SEVERE STORM. We were visited on Saturday night  
last with a severe storm of rain accompanied with a  
high wind which caused considerable damage in this  
vicinity. A Saw Mill owned by Mr. Simeon Cummings  
was carried away by the sudden rise and breaking up  
of the river, and also the bridge situated near by. Se-  
veral other bridges in this village were untied, and  
blown down, and otherwise damaged. It was one of  
the most severe storms we ever knew. The wind blew  
a perfect hurricane. People in the streets had great  
difficulty to keep on their feet. We have not learned  
how far the storm extended, but fear the damage on  
the seaboard must have been great.

#### THE FARMER'S MONTHLY VISITOR.

We have received the first number of a work with the  
above title, published at Concord, N. H., and edited by  
Hon. Isaac Hill, formerly member of Congress and  
Governor of New Hampshire. It is published on a sheet  
of superior paper, measuring 27 by 47 inches consisting  
of 14 pages, containing each three columns; a form ve-  
ry convenient for binding at the end of the year. Each  
number to contain at least four engravings illustrative  
of some important agricultural, some method of build-  
ing or constructing farmyards, enclosures, or other im-  
provements, or some animal deemed to be useful for its  
strength, speed and other qualities. This number is re-  
plete with useful and interesting matter to the agricul-  
tural community. It is a work which every professed  
farmer would do well to patronize. Price 75 cents in  
advance. Subscriptions received at this office.

THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL AND MIS-  
CELLANY. We have received the fourth number of this  
work, published by Adam Walde, Philadelphia. Not  
having much acquainted with the science of Pharmacy,  
we are not qualified to judge of the merits of this work.  
It is published monthly, each number containing not  
less than 32 pages, and making a volume of not less  
than 321 pages. Price \$2 a year.

With the publisher forward us the preceding numbers.

#### LAND AGENT'S REPORT.

The Land Agent, Mr. Hamlin, seems to  
have attended to the duties of his office with  
commendable fidelity. His report embraces  
considerable valuable information, and is cal-  
culated to give our citizens a just idea of the  
worth of our public lands. We learn from it  
that the receipts of the office, for the last year,  
have been \$27,509.93--its expenses \$3,376.  
75, and its disbursements and abatements,  
\$27,272.54--leaving a balance of securities,  
and funds in the hands of the Land Agent, on  
31st day of December, A. D. 1828, of \$331,  
036.09. Nothing has been done the past year,  
on the road, which was cut out in 1827, by  
Abner Coburn, leading from Moosehead Lake  
to the Canada Road, on account of a want of  
co-operation by the Canada Authorities. The  
Aroostook Road has been made the last year,  
about twenty three miles and the amount ex-  
pended upon it, is \$25,620.50, which, with the  
sum laid out the year before, amounts to \$31,  
774.12. From this amount, however, certain  
proper deductions are made, so that the actual  
expenditure upon the road south of the thirty-  
mile tree, for the last two years, has been,  
\$28,256.32. It is represented as being very  
thoroughly built, and even superior, in many  
respects, to the Military road. The Land Agent  
speaks, also, in high terms of its utility. The  
lots adjoining it, he says, have all been taken  
up; settlements have commenced in every  
township through which it passes, and, what is  
of more consequence, the settlers are said to  
be doing well. One of them who commenced  
in Township number six, in 1835, raised last  
year, upwards of sixteen hundred bushels of  
grain, and another person in Township number  
four, has raised one hundred bushels; indeed,  
adds, the Report, the whole country is admir-  
ably adapted to raising grain, and at no distant

period, will furnish a large amount for exportation.

We have within the limits of the State accord-  
ing to the treaty of 1783, of the unlocated  
lands belonging to Maine and Massachusetts,  
by estimation, 6,022,060 acres:--Lands located  
into Townships, 2,650,000 acres:--Total,  
8,672,060 acres. In this amount are included  
about 2,240,000 acres lying north and east of  
the St. Francois and St. John rivers. In ad-  
dition to this, there are about 225 townships  
of wild land lying mostly south of the monu-  
ment line, belonging to proprietors so that a  
bout half of the territory of the State remains at  
present, in an almost unbroken forest.

We fully agree with Mr. Hamlin, that the  
advantages of the Western land as compared  
with ours, have been overrated. He truly  
says, that "the low price of produce, the insu-  
larity of the climate, and the absence of many  
social enjoyments, more than weigh down the  
advantages of a fertile soil and a heavy crop." And  
his conclusion is judicious, that it should be  
"enough for us that we have social comforts,  
a healthy climate, a ready market and a soil  
that rarely ever fails to yield, in proportion to  
the labor bestowed upon it."

The number of acres sold to settlers the past  
year, is 12,827, situated mostly in townships  
numbers, Four, Ten, and Twelve in the Fifth  
Range, and in Township number one, Indian  
Purchase. The consideration received from  
these sales amounts to \$4282.7, averaging  
seventy four cents per acre.

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

The proceedings at the inauguration of Gov.  
PORTER were worthy of the occasion. About  
10,000 people assembled at Harrisburg to  
witness the ceremony--a correspondent of the  
Globe says:--

The inauguration was a splendid affair, there  
being not less than ten thousand strangers here  
to witness it. Several volunteer companies  
from the counties came in to enliven the scene.  
The inauguration took place in the hall of the  
House of Representatives. The two Houses  
met at the usual hour. At half past eleven o'-  
clock the members of the Senate, headed by  
the Speaker and Clerk, entered the hall of  
the House and formed convention with the  
members of the House, for the purpose of wit-  
nessing the ceremony. The hall, the rotunda,  
and even the steps of the Capitol, were crowd-  
ed to overflowing. At twelve o'clock the Gov-  
ernor elect, Ex-Governor, and heads of Depart-  
ments, accompanied by the committees appoint-  
ed to wait upon them entered the hall amidst  
the cheers of the assembled multitude. Order  
being restored, the certificate of election was  
read by the Clerk, and the oath of office admin-  
istered to DAVID R. PORTER by the Speaker  
of the Senate, when he was declared to be  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.  
The announcement was received with three  
enthusiastic cheers. Governor Porter then  
rose, and delivered in an elegant and impressive  
manner, his address to the people, being stop-  
ped several times by the cheers of the con-  
course surrounding him. That part is relation  
to the policy of the General Government was  
most enthusiastically responded to, and it was  
several moments before the Governor could  
proceed. The 'Independent Treasury' will  
now be the war cry of the party, and all the  
amalgams of the various factions of the Op-  
position will be unable to resist it.

On the day of the inauguration fifteen more  
of the federal seceders from the House came  
in, so that that body is now composed of 97  
members--there being but three remaining out,  
viz:--Stevens and Kettellwell of Adams, and  
Cox of Somerset.

#### CHEERING NEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI.

Under this caption, the Washington  
Globe gives the following welcome intelligence:

In consequence of the result in the special  
election, in which the Federalists, Messrs.  
PRENTISS and WOOD, triumphed over Messrs.  
CLABOURNE and DAVIS in an issue growing out  
of the decision of the House of Representatives  
in regard to the claim of Messrs. CLABOURNE  
and GILSON to hold for a full term, instead  
of the special session, for which they were elect-  
ed twelve Democrats, members of the Legis-  
lature from counties deciding against Messrs.  
CLABOURNE and DAVIS, were called on to re-  
sign. It was held that they did not truly re-  
present their constituents in supporting the Ad-  
ministration, and according to their principles,  
they resigned. On the other hand, some of  
the Federalists representing strong Democratic  
counties were positively instructed to vote for a  
Democrat as Senator of the United States, or  
resign, and they refused to obey or resign.

We have heard from all but one of the coun-  
ties where the Democratic Representatives  
resigned under the call made by the Federalists,  
and are happy to learn that the elections have  
resulted in favor of the friends of the Adminis-  
tration. This renders it certain that the Dem-  
ocratic party have a majority in the General  
Assembly of Mississippi, and secures the elec-  
tion of a friend to the Administration to supply  
the vacancy in the Senate of the United States,  
made by the resignation of Judge Thornton.

ON DR. It is currently reported that cer-  
tain federal office holders will be very much  
put out by the proceedings of the Governor  
and Council during the present week. Whether  
their *marms* are to be consulted on the occa-  
sion or not is not stated. [Saco Democrat.]

His Ex. Sir John Colborne was inaugurated  
on the 17th inst, at Montreal, as Governor  
General, Vice Admiral, and Captain General  
of all Her Majesty's Provinces within and adja-  
cent to the continent of North America.

The Bangor Whig is whining about the re-  
moval from office of Adj. Gen. Vose. This  
was to be expected. Notwithstanding the  
frequent assertions of the federalists, that they  
asked no favors of the new administration, we  
are not at all surprised to hear their bitter and  
mournful complaints, at relinquishing their hard  
earned spoils. And, unmanly as such a course  
is we are not inclined to find fault with it. It  
is not perhaps, unreasonable that men all whose  
exertions have been stimulated by the hope of  
office, and who have enjoyed, for a brief period,  
the gratification of that hope, should indulge in  
a little "sighing and grief" to lose, so soon,  
their glittering rewards. We would not com-  
plain, even of the high eulogiums upon their  
office holders, with which their papers, are con-  
stantly filled, although we, by no means, be-  
lieve that they are, in every case, deserved. But  
we object to the practice, an illustration of  
which we are sorry to see in the Whig, of praising  
the federal officials, at the expense of the  
democratic officers. It is quite enough for the  
opposition to boast of their own immaculate  
purity, without going a step further, and calling  
in question the integrity and competency of  
those by whom they are succeeded. The  
Whig, however, is not satisfied with this. After  
praising enthusiastically the qualifications of  
Gen. Vose, it goes on with a paragraph of abuse  
upon Gen. Thompson, which is as unjust as it  
is uncharitable. Every man who knows Gen.  
Thompson, knows him to be an excellent and  
able officer, and one who is thoroughly ac-  
quainted with the duties of his station, as well  
as amply competent to perform them. The  
manner in which the concerns of his office  
have been heretofore managed, is abundant  
proof of this assertion; which is also, confirm-  
ed by their opinions of the officers, generally,  
throughout the State. If he was far less com-  
petent, than he undoubtedly is, he might, if all  
reports are true, compare advantageously with  
his immediate predecessor, whose term of six  
months, if it has not been as long as he himself  
could have wished, has been quite as long, un-  
less we are grossly misinformed, as the best in-  
terests of the militia would render desirable.

Eastern Argus.

A SOUND PROPHECY.--When the cry was  
"ruin, ruin," Mr. Buchanan said in the U. S.  
Senate--

"He did not wish to set up for a prophet, or  
to add his name to the list of prophets on the  
floor. For once, however, he would venture  
to prophecy.

He would say that the flux and re-flux of  
the tides were not more certain than that this  
country will witness a return to prosperity be-  
fore the close of the present year. The one  
was governed by the laws of nature the other  
by the laws of trade, almost equally certain--  
Let the Sub-Treasury bill pass, or let it be  
defeated; let the amendment of the Senator  
from Virginia be adopted, or let it be rejected;  
before the first day of January next, (1839) our  
trade, our commerce, our industry of every  
description, will revive and flourish. Nothing  
can prevent it, except some great national cal-  
amity, which no man can now anticipate. He  
judged of the future by the past. How long  
this prosperity may continue, he would not pre-  
tend to say. This would depend upon the ac-  
tion of the banks; and what length of time would  
be required again to expand the bubble of specu-  
lation to the bursting point."

It will be seen, by reference to our Congres-  
sional news, that the committee to investigate the  
Swartwout defalcation, has at length been raised.  
The conservatives and federalists united  
in voting for its selection by secret ballot, and  
its composition is such as might have been an-  
ticipated from such a coalition. The three  
democratic members placed on it declined serv-  
ing in a situation where they were entirely in  
the hands of the opposition, and have left Mr.  
Wise and his confederates to do their work alone.  
The object of creating a party committee, in  
this case, is thus explained by the Globe:--

Eastern Argus.

"The movers of this scheme wished to shield  
the banks in which Mr. Swartwout deposited,  
and which placed the public money to his pri-  
vate account, from all blame in the transaction.  
They wish to keep the conduct of the whig and  
conservative merchants out of sight, at whose  
instance the six hundred thousand dollars in  
bonds were probably drawn by the collector, as a  
relief measure, from that close scrutiny which  
might incaluate them. They wish to have a  
majority on the committee which will obstruct  
the inquiry, and prevent it from reaching to the  
disposal of the money by Swartwout, a portion  
of which was doubtless used by him in building  
up the Conservative power in New York. A  
considerable amount probably was paid for  
those Conservative addresses with which Mr.  
Tallmadge, Garland, and the rest, flooded the  
country, as well as for other Conservative ob-  
jects. To conceal the defective bank system of  
deposits, under which Mr. Swartwout's de-  
falcation occurred, and its agency in it, is mat-  
ter of moment to both Whigs and Conservatives;  
but it is matter of special interest to the latter,  
that it may not be discovered whether any por-  
tion of the abstracted million and a quarter has  
fallen into their hands for electioneering dis-  
tribution, in the shape of publications or other-  
wise. A committee made up of a majority of  
Federalists and Conservatives is important for  
this purpose, as well as to make out a report to  
subserve the political views of this coalition, by  
assailing the Administration. Nevertheless, as  
some of those who wish to make such a com-  
mittee represent Republican constituents, they  
do not want to vote publicly, and have their  
agency seen in creating such a committee--  
Hence the proposition for the secret ballot.

#### FATAL TRANSACTION.

A melancholly affair occurred in our city, last  
evening, which terminated in the death of an in-  
dividual named John Starbird. The deceased  
was in company, about 6 1-2 o'clock, with one  
John E. Gould, a laborer who resides here--  
This was in the store of Mr. Samuel Winslow,  
at the head of Central Wharf. While there  
Gould revived an old dispute which he had had  
with Starbird, and Starbird expressed an inten-  
tion to have "nothing more to do with him."--  
They both soon left the store, and, as we learn,  
not intoxicated. About five minutes afterwards  
Mr. Winslow, upon going out to put up his shut-  
ters, saw lying in the road a man who, upon ex-  
amination, proved to be Starbird. Assistance  
was had and he was hurried into the store,  
when he was found to be horribly bruised upon  
his head, and entirely senseless. He survived  
until about four o'clock this morning, without,  
however, being able to answer any inquiries  
concerning the cause of his injury. An inquest  
was held to-day upon the body by Jere. Martin,  
Esq., and the verdict was "that the deceased  
came to his death by a fracture of the skull, oc-  
casioned by a blow upon the left temple, inflic-  
ted by a smooth stone, or some heavy instru-  
ment, in the hand of some person, and the Jury  
presume that person was John E. Gould, of  
Portland, laborer." Gould, we understand,  
says he had a fight with Starbird, but that the  
injury upon his head could not have been occa-  
sioned by any blow from him, but must have  
been caused by Starbird's fall. Gould has  
been arrested, and an examination of the case is  
now going on before the Municipal Court.

Argus of 25th inst.

What is a Conservative? is a question of-  
ten asked, and by way of answer, we cannot  
be wide of the mark when we say he is a political  
pretender, who heretofore became attached to the  
Democratic party with selfish purposes only;  
and now, being disappointed in his sordid  
views, you may hear him and his Whig associ-  
ates howling, night and day, like a gang of  
hungry wolves, around the walls of the Public  
treasury, with their nostrils spread wide to snuff  
their darling spoils within.

Others, however, engaged in a less savage  
employment have been contented with the  
humane occupation of administering, in the  
capacity of nurses, to our late debilitated cur-  
rency. One of this class, like the Genius of  
Whiggery herself, you might have seen, with a  
bowl and spoon in either hand, coaxingly feed-  
ing a sick bank with shin-plaster soup.

[N. J. Democrat Banner.]

FRANKFORT INTELLIGENCER.--We receiv-  
ed no copy of the Intelligencer this week, and  
from the following paragraph, which we had in  
the Belfast Journal, we suppose it has been dis-  
continued.

Argus.

"Died, in Frankfort, on the 12th inst., The  
Intelligencer. This sudden death has led to  
some enquiry as to the cause, and we learn from  
the Physician that the Intelligencer had been  
for a long time troubled with wind on the stom-  
ach; and in the act of his administering a dose  
of the Bank Commissioners Report, it gave up  
the ghost.

Curious Affair: Scandal.--Several curious  
stories are afloat relative to Queen Victoria, or  
at least to the apartments in the palace which she  
occupies. It will be remembered that some  
time back one of her Majesty's footmen, or  
valot de chamber was locked up in the Queen's  
bedchamber, or ante-bed-chamber, all night,  
under singular circumstances, said to have been  
shot up there through an accident, or mistake  
of one of the ladies in waiting. The "London  
Morning Herald" of Dec. 14th, has a singular  
story about another young man, named Edward  
Cotton, of a highly respectable family, who was  
found in the Queen's apartments in the palace,  
"under circumstances of an extraordinary na-  
ture," as the "Herald" says. Two letters were  
found on him one addressed to the Queen, and  
the other to the Hon. Augustus Murray son of  
the Duke of Sussex. It seems that he had been  
in the palace, in the Queen's apartments, for  
some weeks, and had a favorite apartment, and  
was always hid, when the Queen had a meeting  
with her masters, behind a certain piece of fur-  
niture in the room.

#### MARRIED.

In Portland, Augustine Haines Esq. to Miss Francis Patten.  
In Fayette, Mr. Ebenezer Farrington, Jr. to Miss Mary South-  
field, both of Livermore.  
In Bath, Mr. Zeddon Wright of Lewiston, to Miss Charity  
Edgcomb.

#### DIED.

In Andover, Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Joshua Moody,  
aged 62.  
In Barcelona, Nov. 12, Geo. G. Barrell, Esq. consul of the  
United States for the port of Malaga; a native of Maine.  
At Cape Coast Castle, Africa, Mrs. Letitia E. M'Leon,  
(formerly Miss L. B. London,) the accomplished and beautiful  
writer and poetess.

#### SACRED MUSIC SOCIETY'S COLLECTED OF CHURCH MUSIC.

CONSISTING of Psalm and Hymn Tunes, An-  
them, and Chants, composed and compiled un-  
der the general direction of the Portland Sacred Music  
Society, and adapted to the use of classes, choirs, and  
the social circle, arranged with small notes for the Or-  
gan and Piano Forte. By David Paine. Just received  
and for sale at the Oxbow Bookstore, by  
Norway-Village, Jan. 26, 1839. 4w21

**Brown's Improved Almanack,  
Pocket Memorandum, and  
Account Book, for 1839.**

CONTAINING, in addition to the useful mat-  
ter, Portraits of several of the most distinguished po-  
litical and literary men of the present times. Just  
received and for sale by  
Norway-Village, Jan. 22, 1839. If 23

#### ATKINSON'S EVENING POST, AND PHILADELPHIA SATURDAY NEWS.

A WEEKLY Family paper, devoted to Literature, Science,  
Arts, Foreign and Domestic Intelligence, &c. &c. published  
in Philadelphia, at Two Dollars per annum, payable in ad-  
vance.

The subscriber having recently purchased the proprietor-  
ship of the PHILADELPHIA SATURDAY NEWS, a weekly  
Journal of wide circulation and high literary character, pro-  
poses hereafter to issue that paper in connection with his own  
long established and well known periodical, the EVENING  
POST. By the junction of these two journals, the list of sub-  
scribers to the united publication will be among the greatest in  
the United States. To preserve and extend this ample cir-  
culation, the subscriber is determined to make every effort which  
he means will allow. Among the early improvements which  
he proposes to introduce, will be a finer quality of paper and  
other mechanical changes, which will tend to make the Evening  
Post and News one of the most elegant weekly journals  
which the country furnishes.

Upon the literary department of the Evening Post and  
News, the subscriber intends to bestow particular attention.  
The editorial management of the paper is committed to a gen-  
tleman of high reputed qualifications and character, and ne-  
gociations are now in progress by which the aid of the best tal-  
ent in the country will be secured. With these accessories to  
his present able list of contributors, the subscriber does not  
hesitate to predict that in point of literary merit the Evening  
Post and News will speedily take rank among the first of our  
periodicals.

To his own patrons, many of whom have received the Evening  
Post since its commencement, the subscriber offers his as-  
surances that the same attention to the facilitation of send-  
ing, blended with profitable amusement and useful in-  
struction, which in years past, has secured their approbation, shall  
will be directed to similar results; and to the patrons of the  
Saturday News, he offers assurances, that the spirit, variety,  
and abundance, both of original and selected literature, shall in  
no degree be diminished under his control. From the latter  
therefore, he confidently expects a continuance of the favors so  
liberally bestowed on his predecessors, which it shall be his  
earnest study to merit.

Terms. Single number of the paper for one year, \$2  
Three copies one year \$5  
Agents who favor us with five subscribers and enclose \$10, in  
current notes will be entitled to an extra volume of the Post  
and a volume of the Casket for a year.

Particular Notice to those persons who wish to  
take the Post and News.

All payments must positively be made in advance, in as good  
current notes as can be procured. Postage must invariably  
be paid on all communications addressed to the Publisher, and  
paid letters per not taken from the post office, but are allowed  
to the General Post Office department at Washington.

Address, S. C. ATKINSON.

39, Carter's Alley, Philadelphia.

P. S.--Patrons and others who are at present agents  
for the Saturday News, are respectfully solicited to continue  
their aid in behalf of the joint publication.

Newspapers with whom we exchange will oblige by giving  
the above a few insertions, a favor not before asked for several  
years--and those wishing to exchange by copying the above  
will oblige by so doing. A copy containing the advertisement  
marked is requested.

Subscriptions for the above received at this Office.

#### Stocks! Stocks!!

A PRIME assortment of Satin and Bombazine Stocks  
from the Portland Manufactory, just received and  
for sale by the subscriber.

ALSO--

**Far Collars, Caps, & Buffalo  
Robes,**

A new lot, just received. W. E. GOODNOW.

Norway-Village, January 10th, 1839. 4w21

WANTED;

As above, all kinds of SHIPPING FURS, for which  
a fair price will be paid.

#### Freedom.

To whom it may Concern:

I, JOHN A. HOWARD, of Maine, hereby certify that I have  
given my son, LEANDER HOWARD, his time, and  
he is at liberty to act and trade for himself; and I shall  
pay no debts of his contracting after the date of these  
present.

Witness: JOHN A. HOWARD.  
Joseph A. Farnum,  
Nathan Hall, John Howard,  
Mexico, Dec. 8, 1835. 3w23

#### MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that Ezekiel Merrill of  
Andover in the County of Oxford, conveyed to me  
the subscriber by deed of mortgage dated the twenty-  
seventh day of March, A. D. 1835, a certain farm sit-  
uated in said Andover, for a particular description of which  
reference may be had to Oxford County Records, Book  
43, Page 423. Said mortgage was executed to secure the  
payment of one thousand dollars payable in three years  
from the first day of January 1834, with annual interest.  
I therefore claim to have possession of said mortgaged  
premises to foreclose the same, for breach of the condi-  
tion of said mortgage.

ALDEN BLOSSOM.

Tarner, Jan'y 19, 1839. 3w23

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representa-

tives for the year 1839.

THE undersigned, inhabitants of Livermore Falls

and vicinity would respectfully represent that they

are desirous of constructing a Bridge across the Andro-

scoggin river at or near Livermore Falls. They there-

fore pray that they and their associates may be incor-

porated by the name of the Livermore Falls Bridge Com-

pany, with the powers and privileges incident to similar

corporations.

NATHANIEL MAYO & 29 others.

Livermore Falls, Dec. 1, 1838. 23

#### STATE OF MAINE.

In SENATE, January 15, 1839.

ON the Petition aforesaid, Ordered, That the Peti-

tioners cause an attested copy of their petition,

with this order thereon, to be printed three weeks suc-

cessively in the Oxford Democrat, the last publication

to be three days at least before the eleventh day of Feb-

ruary next, that all persons interested, may then appear

and shew cause, (if any they have) why the prayer of  
said Petition should



"Mamma," said Emma Jones as she untied her neat 'shaker,' "we had a new scholar to-day, the most forlorn looking thing you ever saw. She had on an old calico gown with the color all faded out, and washed ribbon on her hat, and heavy shoes, and all her books covered with colored muslin—she'll be laughed at, if she comes to school in that style. I can tell her!"

"Never, I hope, by you Emma! Poor little girl! to find herself ragged and dirty in the midst of strangers!"

The Cincinnati News speaks of a hair oil so powerful in its effects, that it will bring out new teeth upon and old curry-comb.

The Cincinnatians celebrated on the 26th ult. the semi centennial anniversary of the settlement of their city. In 1798, the ground on which it is built was bought for *forty-nine dollars*. It now has a population according to some statements, of 50,000,—a number by the way, which we do not believe is understated.

We will consider the brain and the spinal marrow as the galvanic battery, and the nerves as the conductors of the galvanic fluid. From the brain, the digital, sensitive, pleasure, pain, feelings, affections, thoughts, and sentiments, emanate, and the nerves form a part of our system, their healthy action depends upon the blood. If the blood be vitiated, the nervous fluid from the blood must be the same, and vitiated nervous fluid cannot produce healthy or proper motion, thoughts, feelings or sentiments, so that quarrels, murders, suicides, and every kind of crime or cruelty, may be legitimately traced to a bad or tor-

**BLANK!**  
WARRANTEE, Mortgage, and Quitclaim Deeds,  
also, Certificates for obtaining the bounty on  
Wheat and Corn, for sale at this Office.

**WARRANTEE**, Mortgage, and Quitclaim Deeds,  
also, **CERTIFICATES** for obtaining the bounty on  
Wheat and Corn, for sale at this Office.  
Oct. 30

**COLLECTOR'S NOTICE,---Stoneham.**  
NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident proprietors and owners of lands in the town of Stoneham, in the County of Oxford and State of Maine, that they are taxed in bills committed to me as collector for the year 1838, respectively, in the respective sums following:—

	No. Lots	No. Buys	No. Range	No. acres	Value	Tax
Owns unknown,	27			73	\$ 2	\$ 63
do	23			100	2	63
do	29			23	1	62
do	31			123	4	16
do	39			75	4	16
do	34			130	5	12
do	34			100	35	29
do	35			25	6	15
do	35			150	45	14
do	Gen			50	1	62
do	73			70	3	67
do	77			75	3	67
do	83			100	1	62
do	103			100	30	73
do	191			100	40	102
do	193			30	30	77
do	190			100	7	16
do	165			100	4	10
do	164			100	4	10
do	3	2	5	100	25	64
do	1	3	5	100	25	14
do	4	3	D	60	25	64
do	4	3	D	30	30	64
do	1	1	1	100	50	124
do	113	2	3	100	25	64
do	2	3	D	100	40	132
do	4	1	1	50	45	14
do	7	3	3	25	23	58
do	2	2	4	100	15	34
do	2	1	1	100	25	64
do	7	1	10	100	25	64
do	87			100	39	97
do	73			100	4	16
do	21			75	51	30
do	2	4	2	50	25	64
do	1	1	1	75	71	81
do	7	3	2	50	45	14
do	1	1	3	100	30	77
do	5	6	C	70	22	56
do	5	6	C	70	22	56

**JAMES DOUGLASS,**  
late of Denmark in the county of Oxford, deceased, by giving  
bond as the law directs—She therefore requests all persons  
who are indebted to the said deceased's estate to make imme-  
diate payment; and those who have any demands thereon, to  
exhibit the same to

**Oxford, 83:**

and to make and sign all necessary and due acquittances therefor to any and all persons with whom he may trade or serve. But I am not to be accountable for any debts of his contracting, either expressly or impliedly after this date.

CLARK KIMBALL.

Attest—Wm. Swan

sons who are indebted to the said deceased's estate to make immediate payment; and those who have any demands thereon to exhibit the same to

**SAMUEL RICHARDSON,**  
Livermore, January 1, 1939. 5w21

**Attorney at Law.**

**JACOB SEVERY, Administrator**  
 Dixfield, Jan'y 1, 1839 3w2l  
**JOB WORK,**  
**NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS**

**JOE WORK,**  
NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS  
OFFICE.

**JOB WORK,  
NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS  
OFFICE.**

NEATLY EXECUTED AT THIS  
OFFICE.